

# **MINORITY HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**CHisPA**

**9:00 – 11:00 am**

**May 19, 2008**

**Members Present: Aleatha Dickerson, Donna Huntley-Newby, Maria Barros, Dannie Ritchie, Maria Sansiveri, Betty Bernal**

**Members Excused Absent: Yvette Mendez, Debbie Correia Morales, Vinnie Velazquez, Helena Friedmann, Janet Anderson**

**Members Unexcused Absent: Julie Rawlings, Pich Chhoeun**

**HEALTH Staff Present: Carrie Bridges, Helen Drew, Rilwan Feyisitan**

**Guests/Presenters: Miguel Sanchez-Hartwein and Carolyn Campos from CHisPA, additional MHPC Coordinators**

## **Call to Order**

**Aleatha Dickerson called the meeting to order.**

## **Welcome from Host Agency**

**Miguel Sanchez-Hartwein, Executive Director, CHisPA, welcomed the members of the MHAC and reviewed the recent CHisPA annual breakfast as well as some of CHisPA's programs. El Club de la Salud is a Minority Health Promotion Center program. Part of the NCLR/NIH curriculum, El Club de la Salud offers individual client assessments, exercise and nutritional counseling, and additional services in partnership with the Food Stamp/FNEP program at URI.**

## **Review of Minutes**

**Minutes from April 28, 2008 meeting were accepted without revision.**

## **Sub-committee Updates**

**I. Legislative/Advocacy- no report**

**II. Membership- no report**

**III. Events- no report**

**IV. Data- no report**

**V. Emergency Preparedness / Pandemic Flu- Link Maria Barros with Disability & Health Program Manager, Kate McCarthy-Barnett, to offer training on the special needs registry at the RI Partnership for Home Care. Send Special Pops grant update to Aleatha Dickerson.**

## **Old Business / Minority Health Advisory Committee Updates**

### **I. OMH Update**

**a. State Funding- approx. \$25,000 cut from state OMH account; may be additional cuts in FY08; comment was made that \$25,000 cut may have a greater impact as people and dollars are shifted and programs are suspended**

**b. OMH National Partnership for Action- Regional Conversation will be June 17-19 in Pennsylvania; OMH will likely do a meeting or key informant interviews with people who cannot attend.**

**c. New England Regional Minority Health Committee- conference moved to October 2009 to avoid conflict with the federal OMH National Summit in Spring 2009**

### **II. State Partners Updates**

**DEA- Now located at 74 West River Rd. in the Pastore Center in Cranston. No longer processing identification for seniors but still processing income verification for bus passes. DEA workforce is ¼ the size of 3 years ago with the same number of programs.**

**DHS- Mary Lima, Civil Rights Officer, person in charge of services for LEP persons, and former MHAC member, is retiring.**

## **New Business**

**I. Title V Community Input- Minority Health Promotion Center Coordinators joined the MHAC meeting to review the proposed FY09 Title V (Maternal & Child Health Block Grant) funding and programmatic priorities for FY09 and offered feedback. (See Title V survey at <http://www.health.ri.gov/family/index.php>**

**II. Lifespan / Care New England Merger: Questions/Concerns to share with HEALTH – please read hospital conversion application questions in advance, <http://www.health.ri.gov/merger/HCAapplication.pdf> - tabled until June meeting**

## **Open Comments / Discussion**

## **Next Meeting**

**Meetings are on the 4th Monday of the month from 9:00-11:00 am. The next regularly scheduled meeting is on Monday, June 23rd from 9:00 – 11:00 am at the Open Table of Christ United Methodist Church at 1520 Broad Street in Providence.**